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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Great God, Eternal Lord, long ago You gave us this land as a home for free people. Show us that there is no law or liberty apart from You and lead our lawmakers to serve You with faithfulness and humility. Lord, use them to challenge the cruelty that divides and rules humanity. May they be Your instruments to draw people together in order to accomplish Your will. May these efforts enable America to be a light to nations, leading the way to Your promised kingdom. Throughout this day, may our Senators sense Your presence and engage in constant inner conversation with You.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TOM UDALL led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 8, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator

from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business for 1 hour. The Republicans will control the first 30 minutes, the majority will control the second 30 minutes. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the Homeland Security Appropriations Act. There will be 5 minutes for debate prior to a vote in relation to the Sessions amendment, with time equally divided and controlled between Senators SCHUMER and SESSIONS.

Upon disposition of the Sessions amendment, there will be 2 minutes for debate prior to a vote on the DeMint amendment, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators MURRAY and DEMINT. Senators should, therefore, expect a series of votes to begin probably about 20 to 11 today. Additional rollcall votes are expected throughout the day.

CIVILITY IN THE SENATE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, every Wednesday in a first floor office meeting room there is a Prayer Breakfast. Members of the Jewish faith and Christian faith appear there and talk about their life experiences. Today was a tremendously stimulating day. Senator TED KAUFMAN, from Delaware, made the presentation.

I bring that to the attention of the Senate for a number of reasons. One is that TED KAUFMAN has a stunning life story, not the least of which is starting in 1972, with a 29-year-old man named JOE BIDEN, who stood no chance of being elected in the State of Delaware, running against a man who had served in many different positions, including Member of the House of Representatives, Governor, and was a sitting Senator. But this young 29-year-old, with TED KAUFMAN helping run his campaign, was elected, surprising everyone.

As we know, Senator BIDEN, who had been recently elected—on top of the world, barely old enough to serve constitutionally—after having been in the Senate for a little over a month, his wife and daughter were killed and his two boys were badly injured. TED KAUFMAN served with him as a staffer until, I think, about 1995, when he went into the private sector and then came back as a Senator, appointed when Senator BIDEN was elevated to become Vice President.

But the most important part I wish to relate to the Senate is that he said, from the time he left here in 1995 until the day when he came back as a Senator, the civility that is now here was not in the Senate in 1995. He said the atmosphere here is so much better now than it was in 1995.

Everyone should appreciate what TED KAUFMAN said. We have tried—President Obama has tried, I have tried—and I hope that has helped civility here. We all have to understand, as Senator KAUFMAN indicated to the Members assembled there today, that there is a difference between Democrats and Republicans philosophically, but that doesn't mean they cannot work together as friends. He gave a couple examples of Senators on the floor debating and then walking off shaking hands.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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